

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 08983 231638Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1652

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY RELEASES POLICY DOCUMENT

1. L'UNITA JUNE 22 PUBLISHED A ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) POLICY DOCUMENT WHICH WAS ADOPTED JUNE 19 AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PARTY'S DIRECTORATE SINCE THE JUNE 15-16 ELECTIONS. THE GENERAL TONE OF THE DOCUMENT CONFORMS TO THE ESSENTIALLY CAUTIOUS STANCE THAT THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP HAS TAKEN IN THE WAKE OF THE PCI'S LARGEST ELECTORAL GAINS IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD.

2. THE PCI DOCUMENT DESCRIBES THE ELECTIONS AS "A FACT OF EXTRADORDINARY POLITICAL IMPORTANCE IN THE LIFE OF OUR COUNTRY" AND NOTES THAT THEY DEMONSTRATED THE PROFOUND NATURE OF THE CHANGES GOING ON IN ITALIAN SOCIETY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE DOCUMENT CONTINUES, THE ELECTIONS DEMONSTRATED THE POPULAR DESIRE FOR A MAJOR SHIFT IN THE MANNER IN WHICH THE COUNTRY IS RULED AT ALL LEVELS, BOTH LOCAL AND NATIONAL.

3. WHILE LACKING IN SPECIFIC DETAIL, THE THRUST OF THE DOCUMENT CONFORMS TO THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE PCI'S ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, TO WIT THE NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AND THE END OF THE ABUSES OF "BAD GOVERNMENT" AND FOR THE ADOPTION OF PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO STIMULATE THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

AT THE LOCAL LEVELS, PCI OFFICIALS ARE DEPICTED AS BEING PREPARED

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PAGE 02 ROME 08983 231638Z

TO COOPERATE WITH ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES (ABOVE ALL THE SOCIALISTS)

IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO THE PRESSING PROBLEMS OF THE TIMES.

4. COMMENT: NOTABLY MISSING FROM THE PCI DOCUMENT IS ANY MENTION OF THE HISTORIC COMPROMISE OR ANY HINT AS TO THE PARTY'S STRATEGY ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL DURING THE POST-ELECTORAL PERIOD OF POLITICAL MANEUVERING. AT THIS STAGE THE PCI LEADERSHIP APPEARS CONTENT TO LET ITS ELECTORAL SUCCESS SPEAK FOR ITSELF AND TO SIT SOMEWHAT TO THE SIDELINES WHILE THE MAJOR PROTAGONISTS IN THE CURRENT MANEUVERING, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THE SOCIALISTS, JOCKEY FOR POSITION.
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Message Attributes

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